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ADDRESS

TO THE

IRISH INHABITANTS

OF

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Carton C 93

ADDRESS TO THE IRISH INHABITANTS OF QUEBEC.

COUNTRYMEN;

THE time is now fast approaching when you will have to give a proof of how far you value your rights as men. In the election about to take place it will be your duty to recommend yourselves to the Canadians. It will be your duty to enquire of them, who are, and who are not, to be depended upon, as patriotick staunch members of the House of Assembly. Depend upon it those men who can submit coolly to the threats of power, and to the scurrility of protected newspapers, are the men to whom you have every right as freeholders or house-keepers, to give your votes. For if you give votes to those who can flinch from power, or be made the tools of it, you will shortly introduce taxation, and then, adieu to freeholds and house-keeping. Irishmen! there is nothing more dangerous than canvassing, upon it depends our present rights, and the rights of thousands yet to come. Remember that your characters as men are now to be established in Canada. You must now either take part with the enemies of justice, and thereby lose the good will of the men you live among, as well as lose your rights; or you must side with the Canadians, and shew the courage you so much boast of, in opposing oppression, and gaining the good will of men who have done much for your suffering countrymen. Our courage when attacked openly has never been doubted; but, countrymen!

we are easily played upon. It is now our duty to live on the most friendly terms with the Canadians; they hate taxation, and we, from having tasted, ought to detest it. I know that as far as the present no taxation exists; but if our faithful representatives are sent off for doing their duty, and every art made use of to collect a more yielding assembly, shall we not open our eyes? Shall we not behold our unfortunate countrymen flying from oppression, and as we look upon their tattered garments, say to ourselves; I see thee taxation, I have discovered what thou art, thou art a monster. There are few Irishmen who do not know that the easy manners of our ancestors, to a soft word, a shake of the hand, and a how do you do, from a fine gentleman, has cost their children more than a legion of red coats could have forced from them. Be on your guard, therefore, countrymen! "Be as mild as lambs, but as subtile as serpents." Yes, countrymen! be cool, but be firm. Those of you who are not determined to remain in this country, would but ill repay the kindness of the Canadians to your poorer countrymen, by voting in such members as would sell their liberties; and those of you who are to remain, should shudder at the thought, of giving to idlers the hard earnings of your springing families. That this must and will be the case, there can be no doubt of, if you do not hold with the Canadians. Above all things, countrymen! beware of wolves in sheep's clothing, for such are all who hang about government places. They will stoop to the great, and cover the poor with rags. In others we may be deceived, but in placemen we never can. Let the youngest Irishman ask himself how often he has seen a gentleman go into his father's house, shake him by the hand, ask after his family, and even fawn upon his children, at the approach of an election; and the next day after it, pass as if he knew not the house. Beware of such men; real worth will not fawn. Let us look back to Ireland, let us take a full view of her distresses,

and her degradation among nations, and let us ask what did all this proceed from? The answer will be; from discord, from want of union. And shall we now, in a land of liberty, (the very air of which is fatal to tyranny) fight against the lovers of liberty, and be madly set on by artful men, who treat us with liquors, only to rob us, in every sense of the word, of our natural rights as men, namely reason and liberty. Be sober, countrymen! and think for yourselves. Common sense will tell you that it is your duty to please that community, which clothed your naked, fed your hungry, built, furnished, and provided with doctors, hospitals for the reception of your sick. To know that such things were done for any countrymen, ought to make us esteem the Canadians, but to know that they were done for the suffering Irish ought to make us honour and love them. I beg of any Irishman who does not believe what is here stated to look a little after the truth of it. I beg of him to take notice of the Canadian doctors, exposing themselves to many inconveniences, summer and winter, late and early, leaving the comfortable fireside or pleasant party, or what is more dear the affectionate family, to go a considerable distance to visit and give relief to our suffering and otherwise forsaken countrymen. These are facts we cannot deny, countrymen! neither can the vultures that would swallow us up, and try to keep an opposition, for no other purpose but to make tools of us to satisfy their gluttony. Again, I beg of every Irishman who hears himself insulted, or disrespected, to consider how far we deserve it, if at elections we have opposed, and given blows to the Canadian for the treatment his countrymen have given the Irish.

At this election, countrymen, let us avoid all parties where drink is given, let us give our votes to those patriots who are worthy of them, and let us see that no money is received to corrupt the wavering; and let us go quietly to the POLL, and calmly

return to our homes or employments and not be duped by the wicked ones.

I will say no more at present, countrymen, but leave you to decide; and that you may decide on uniting firmly with the Canadians is the sincere wish of

A TRUE IRISHMAN.